

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:410  
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2002  
CASH AWARDS TO MEDAL WINNERS  
RAGHUNATH JHA

**Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether it is the policy of the Government to give cash awards to medal winners in various international sports events;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; (
- (c) whether as a part of this policy the Prime Minister has announced grant/cash awards of Rs. 5,00,000 to Gold Medal Winners, Rs. 3,00,000 to Silver Medal Winners and Rs. 2,00,000 to Bronze Medal Winners of Busan 2002; and
- (d) the details of the other incentives being thought of by the Government to encourage talented sports persons?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIKRAM VERMA)

(a ) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 410 18.12.2002 REGARDING CASH AWARDS TO MEDAL WINNERS ASKED BY SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Government gives cash awards to medal winners in various international sports events. Medal winners in Olympic Games, Official World Championships, Asian/Commonwealth Games and Official Asian/Commonwealth Championships are given such awards under the scheme of Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches.

(c ) The medal winners of the Far East and South Pacific (FESPIC) Games-2002, held from the 26th October to the 1st November 2002 at Busan in South Korea, called on the Prime Minister on 21.11.2002. During his interaction with the disabled sportspersons, the Hon'ble Prime Minister, announced Cash Award of Rs.5 lakh, Rs.3 lakh and Rs.2 lakh, each, for the winners of Gold, Silver and Bronze medals respectively at these Games. The existing scheme, however, does not contain any provision to give awards to winners of FESPIC Games.

(d) The details of various incentives, given by the Government, to encourage talented sportspersons are as under:-

- i) Under the scheme of Assisting Promising Sportspersons and Supporting Personnel, elite sportspersons are being provided a financial assistance of upto Rs.5 lakhs, per annum, for undergoing advanced training, within the country and abroad.
- ii) Under the scheme of National Sports Development Fund, sportspersons are being provided financial assistance for their advance training.
- iii) Under the scheme of Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons, Government provides life pension @Rs.2,500/- p.m. for winning medal in Olympics and gold medals in World Cup/World Championships and @Rs.2,000/-p.m. for winning Silver and Bronze medals in World Cup/World Championship and gold medals in Asian and Commonwealth Games.
- iv) Under the scheme of National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons, pension of upto Rs.2,500/- p.m. and lump-sum financial assistance of upto Rs.40,000/- for medical treatment are provided to outstanding sportspersons, placed under indigent circumstances.
- v) Awards are given to sportspersons under the following schemes also:

1. Arjuna Award, carrying a cash award of Rs. 3 lakhs.
2. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, carrying a cash award of Rs.5 lakhs
3. Dhyani Chand Awards for life-time achievements, carrying a cash award of Rs.1.50 lakhs.

vi) Besides the above, the Ministry of Railways issues First Class/AC-II tier Railway Complimentary Passes to the Arjuna Awardees/Olympic medallists/Gold medallists of Asian Games and Commonwealth Games. Similarly, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas allots 2% dealerships / distributionships of Petroleum Products to (a) Arjuna Awardees; (b) Winners of Medals at Olympics/Asian/Commonwealth Games and recognized World Cup/World Championships; and (c) The National Champions under the recognized National Championships. Also, five percent of vacancies in Group 'C' & 'D' posts, in various Government Departments/Ministries/Undertakings, are filled by meritorious sportspersons, by relaxing the rules.